

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the applications:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of aggregating information from individuals in a population thereof, said method comprising

- a) coupling a client device to a data collection element for each of a plurality of individuals in the population, said data collection element including a weight scale;
- b) prompting each individual for health-related information, and collecting the health-related information for each individual at the client device associated with each individual, said health-related information including weight of each individual;
- c) sending the collected information from said client devices to a server device over a network;
- d) extracting the collected information from the data collection elements;
- e) generating statistical information from said collected information sent from a plurality of the client devices;
- f) distributing the statistical information to the individuals; and
- g) repeating steps a-d after a period of time has elapsed;
wherein said statistical information comprises a first statistical measure for a first subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals and a second statistical measure for a second subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals, said first statistical measure based upon weight of said first subpopulation of

individuals and said second statistical measure based upon weight of said second subpopulation of individuals;

- h) comparing the first statistical measure with the second statistical measure, and distributing a result of the comparison to the first subpopulation of individuals and to the second subpopulation of individuals: and
- i) awarding a benefit to said first subpopulation or said second subpopulation ~~one or more of the individuals~~ based on the result of the comparison.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A system for aggregating information for individuals in a population thereof said system including:

a data collection element disposed for collecting an individual value comprising health-related information for each of plurality of individuals in the population in response to a prompt received by the client device for the health-related information, said data collection element including a weight scale;

a server device, disposed for receiving said individual values, for determining at least one aggregate value in response thereto, and extracting the collected information from the data collection elements over a network, the collected information including weight of each individual;

wherein said server device distributes said at least one aggregate value to a plurality of client devices;

wherein each of the client devices repeats collecting the individual value for the individual associated therewith, said server device repeats the determination of at least one aggregate value in response to the repeated collection performed by the client devices and said server device distributes the repeated determination of the at least one aggregate value to a plurality of said client devices, when a preset period of time has elapsed since the previous collection of individual values, determination of at least one aggregate value and distribution of said at least one aggregate value; and

wherein the at least one aggregate value comprises a first statistical measure for a first subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals and a

second statistical measure for a second subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals, said first statistical measure based upon weight of said first subpopulation of individuals and said second statistical measure based upon weight of said second subpopulation of individuals;

wherein the server device is configured to compare the first statistical measure with the second statistical measure, and distribute a result of the comparison to the first subpopulation of individuals and to the second subpopulation of individuals; and

wherein the server device is further configured to award a benefit to said first subpopulation or said second subpopulation ~~one or more of the individuals~~ based on the result of the comparison.

19-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18 [[22]], further comprising a set of client devices, each coupled to a respective data collection element.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25 [[18]], further comprising a communication path between said client devices and said server device.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the statistical information is distributed by the server device to the client devices.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of aggregating information from individuals in a population thereof, said method comprising:

- a) coupling a client device to each of a plurality of individuals in the population;
- b) prompting each individual for health-related information, and collecting the health-related information for each individual at the client device associated with each individual, said health-related information including weight of each individual;

- c) sending the collected information from said client devices to a server device over a network;
- d) extracting the collected information;
- e) generating statistical information from said collected information sent from a plurality of the client devices;
- f) distributing the statistical information to the individuals; and
- g) repeating steps a-d after a period of time has elapsed;

wherein said statistical information comprises a first statistical measure for a first subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals and a second statistical measure for a second subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals, said first statistical measure based upon weight of said first subpopulation of individuals and said second statistical measure based upon weight of said second subpopulation of individuals;

- i) comparing the first statistical measure with the second statistical measure, and distributing a result of the comparison to the first subpopulation of individuals and to the second subpopulation of individuals; and
- j) awarding a benefit to said first subpopulation or said second subpopulation ~~one or more of the individuals~~ based on the result of the comparison.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the statistical information is distributed by the server device to the client devices.

30. (Currently Amended) A system for aggregating information for individuals in a population thereof, said system including:

a client device disposed for collecting an individual value comprising health-related information for each of plurality of individuals in the population in response to a prompt received by the client device for the health-related information, said health-related information including weight of each individual;

a server device, disposed for receiving said individual values, for determining at least one aggregate value in response thereto; and

wherein said server device distributes said at least one aggregate value to a plurality of said client devices over a network;

wherein each of the client devices repeats collecting the individual value for the individual associated therewith, said server device repeats the determination of at least one aggregate value in response to the repeated collection performed by the client devices and said server device distributes the repeated determination of the at least one aggregate value to a plurality of said client devices, when a preset period of time has elapsed since the previous collection of individual values, determination of at least one aggregate value and distribution of said at least one aggregate value;

wherein the at least one aggregate value comprises a first statistical measure for a first subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals and a second statistical measure for a second subpopulation of individuals within the plurality of individuals, said first statistical measure based upon weight of said first subpopulation of individuals and said second statistical measure based upon weight of said second subpopulation of individuals;

wherein the server device is configured to compare the first statistical measure with the second statistical measure, and distribute a result of the comparison to the first subpopulation of individuals and to the second subpopulation of individuals; and

wherein the server device is further configured to award a benefit to said first subpopulation or said second subpopulation ~~one or more of the individuals~~ based on the result of the comparison.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, further comprising a communication path between said client devices and said server device.

32. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said first statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said first subpopulation and said second statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said second subpopulation.

33. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein said first statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said first subpopulation and said second statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said second subpopulation.

34. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said first statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said first subpopulation and said second statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said second subpopulation.

35. (New) The system of claim 30, wherein said first statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said first subpopulation and said second statistical measure is based upon a total weight loss for said second subpopulation.